

Refining a Lexis Download for WordPerfect

Nicolas P. Terry

In the last issue of the *Journal*, a developments note described a procedure for downloading Westlaw cases onto WordPerfect.¹ Similarly, WordPerfect users can download Lexis documents and then run a macro to remove extraneous codes and characters. With Lexis the end result is considerably cleaner if Lexform, a Lexis utility program, is used as an intermediate step between downloading the document with the Lexis software and executing the macro in WordPerfect. I recommend the following sequence: (1) download a document with the Lexis session software in single page (Record), document (Print Doc), or search result (Mail It) format; (2) enter the download filename² into Lexform as the input file and specify an output filename³; (3) enter WordPerfect, retrieve the Lexform output file, and run the clean-up macro.⁴ If you intend to download Lexis documents frequently, you can streamline the process by always using the same target filename⁵: enter the target filename as the permanent input filename in Lexform⁶ and modify the clean-up macro to include the name of the user-defined Lexform default output file.

To obtain a copy of the macro, please contact Nicolas Terry, Saint Louis University School of Law, 3700 Lindell Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63108, enclosing a 5.25 or 3.5 diskette.

Nicolas P. Terry is Professor of Law, Saint Louis University School of Law. The author thanks C. Peter Goplerud, Nancy Kaufman, and William Lash for their perceptive comments on early drafts of this note.

1. Scott J. Burnham & Robert G. Natelson, A WordPerfect Macro for Westmate Software, 40 J. Legal Educ. 392 (1990).
2. Lexis 1.51 defaults are c:\lexis\session.rec or c:\lexis\document.dsk. The Lexis for Windows 1.7 default is dynamic.
3. With Lexform 2.0, use option B on set-up choice 7. You might also want to experiment with the strip-leader function (set-up choice 3) to see which setting gives the best results.
4. Enter the Lexform output filename at the DOS retrieval prompt following Ctrl-F5, 1, 3. Do not use Ctrl-F5, 1, 2. If you omit the Lexform step, enter the download filename.
5. Neither Lexis 1.51 nor the otherwise wonderful Lexis for Windows 1.7 permits changing the download default. Cf. Lexis 1.53, which is bundled in Jurisoft's CheckCite software *sub nom.* service.exe.
6. Unlike the original version, Lexform 2.0 permits a user-defined default.